

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 00449 211421Z

53

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 NEAE-00 AID-05 CU-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IGA-01 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 SS-15 L-02 H-01 NSC-05 SAM-01 ABF-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 OIC-02 IOE-00 /084 W
----- 109229

P R 211244Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5308

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 0449

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: ISRAEL AND UNESCO

REF: A) STATE 9408

B) PARIS 1499

1. SUMMARY: ISRAELIS REMAIN VERY HOSTILE TOWARDS UNESCO.
IN THE ABSENCE OF REASONABLE ASSURANCES THAT NOV UNESCO
RESOLUTIONS WOULD BE REVERSED, WE DO NOT BELIEVE GOI WOULD

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TEL AV 00449 211421Z

INVITE DIRGEN M'BOW ON THEIR OWN INITIATIVE AND WE DOUBT THEY

WOULD DO SO EVEN WITH OUR ENCOURAGEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. LATEST PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF ISRAELI SENTIMENT WAS DECEMBER DECISION BY COMMITTEE HEADED BY JERUSALEM MAYOR TEDDY KILLEK NOT TO INVITE UNESCO REP TO CEREMONY AWARDED JERUSALEM PRIZE TO SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR. COMMITTEE SAID TO PRESS THAT ISRAEL WOULD FIND IT VERY EASY TO DO WITHOUT PRESENCE OF UNESCO ON THAT OCCASION. IT WAS ANNOUNCED SUBSEQUENTLY THAT, CONTRARY TO PREVIOUS PRACTICE, UNESCO WAS ALSO NOT INVITED TO HAVE STAND AT APRIL BOOK FAIR.

3. AS DEPT IS AWARE, WE MADE DEMARCHE TO GOI BEFORE UNESCO VOTE ON NOV 20 RE "CONCESSIONS" M'BOW SUGGESTED ISRAEL MIGHT MAKE (TEL AVIV 6318). WE GOT FLAT TURNDOWN SINCE ISRAELIS INTERPRETED OUR SUGGESTIONS AS CHALLENGE TO ISRAELI SOVEREIGNTY OVER UNIFIED JERUSALEM (TEL AVIV 6382). IF PURPOSE OF TRIP WOULD BE FOR M'BOW TO TRY OUT SIMILAR IDEAS RE ISRAELI "CONCESSIONS" BY DIRECT PRSONAL DIPLOMACY, ISRAELIS WOULD CERTAINLY SEE NO REASON TO INVITE HIM. AS FAR AS ISRAELIS ARE CONCERNED, ISRAELI SOVEREIGNTY OVER JERUSALEM WINS HANDS DOWN OVER ANY EFFORT OF WHAT THEY REGARD AS EFFORT BY UNESCO DIRGEN "TO APPEASE" ARAB BLOC. MOREOVER, ISRAELIS ARE FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT, POLITICS ASIDE, THEIR EXCAVATION ACTIVITY IS CONSISTENT WITH ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS, AND IS NOT DAMAGING TO HISTORICLA-RELIGIOUS CHARACTER OF OLD CITY. THUS, EVEN ON SUBSTANTIVE GROUNDS, THEY WOULD BE VERY RESIENT TO "CONCESSIONS" AS CONCEIVED BY DIRGEN M'BOW.

4. THESE OBSERVATIONS AR NOT INTENDED TO THROW COLD WATER ON REMOTE POSSIBILITY OF ACTION THAT MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO HEALING CURRENT UNESCO-ISRAELI SPLIT IN INTERESTS OF THIS ORGANIZATION IN PARTICULAR, AND UN SYSTEM IN GENERAL. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT BELIEVE ISRAELIS CONSIDER UNESCO SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT TO THEM AT THIS TIME TO PAY ANY SIGNIFICANT PRICE TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION AND UNLESS M'BOW HAD SOMETHING VERY SUBSTANTIAL TO OFFER THE ISRAELIS, WE WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO ENCOURAGE GOI TO ISSUE INVITATION. IF GOI REFUSED, THIS WOULD DEROGATE FROM PRESTIGE OF NEW DIRGEN AND HAVE GENERALLY COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 TEL AV 00449 211421Z

EFFECT (THE ISRAELIS WOULD SEE TO IT THAT THIS INFO LEAKED). IF A VISIT TOOK PLACE AND WAS UNSUCCESSFUL (AS SEEMS LIKELY), IT WOULD BE HIGHLY PUBLICIZED FAILURE AND SERVE TO FURTHER EXACERBATE ALREADY SERIOUS SITUATION. WE DO NOT BELIEVE VISIT BY DDG FORBES (REF B) WOULD MUCH ALTER THIS ASSESSMENT, THOUGH ISRAELIS WOULD PROBABLY RECEIVE HIM.

5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL INFO RE "CONCESSIONS"

M'BOW MIGHT HAVE IN MIND IN ORDER TO GIVE FINAL OPINION.
VELIOTES

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TELAV00449
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750022-0652
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750132/aaaabcgz.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 9408
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAEL AND UNESCO
TAGS: AORG, UNESCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006